



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"Enriching Lives"*

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

November 25, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AWARD OF PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS  
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 1 AND 5  
3 VOTES**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Award and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to prepare the construction contracts in the form previously approved by County Counsel, execute the contracts, and establish the effective dates following receipt of approved Faithful Performance and Labor and Material bonds filed by the contractors for the following:

Project ID No. RDC0014205 - 50th Street West at Avenue L-14, et al., vicinities of Quartz Hill, Palmdale, and Littlerock (5), to TDS Engineering, in amount of \$188,296.00.

Project ID No. TSM0010010 - Huntington Drive, et al., vicinities of Rosemead, Arcadia, Monrovia, and San Gabriel (1 and 5), to C. T. & F., Inc., in amount of \$1,364,107.91.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

We are recommending that your Board award these construction contracts and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute the contracts and establish the effective contract dates following receipt of approved bonds and insurance filed by contractors for each of these projects.

The enclosure for each project includes the project description, the call for bids and bid opening dates, a tabulation of bids, and financial information. The certified record of receipt of bids and the original bid proposals for each project are also enclosed.

The recommended construction contracts are necessary to execute Board-directed and approved Public Works projects in support of operational missions. Your Board's approval of the recommended contract awards and our subsequent execution of the contracts will ensure the timely completion of the projects.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The award of these construction contracts is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence since these contracts will provide improved infrastructure to better serve the public.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The enclosure for each project includes the amount of the recommended contract as compared with the engineer's estimate and the other bids received.

These projects are included in the 2003-04 Department of Public Works Budget. The enclosure for each project includes more detailed fiscal and financial information.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Recommended contract awards are to the lowest responsible bidders in accordance with the California Public Contract Code and your Board's directives.

On October 27, 1981, your Board adopted a program for the use of small Minority and Women-owned Businesses (MWBs) on Federal- and State-funded highway construction contracts. Companies meeting these requirements are certified by the State as Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs). An overall goal for subcontracting portions of the work to DBEs is established for each project. Contracts are recommended for award to the lowest responsible bidder who meets the goal or documents a good faith effort to do so in conformance with the program.

We have also developed an outreach program to encourage all qualified contractors to participate in the bidding and contracting process on our projects. Under this program, we place notices of upcoming bids in local and minority newspapers throughout the County. These notices indicate that copies of plans and specifications are available at specified libraries and the Public Works Headquarters building. This allows interested contractors to view the plans and specifications at convenient locations. We also provide telephone numbers (including one for Spanish-speaking contractors) to obtain further information on bidding and subcontracting opportunities.

To further increase contractor awareness of contracting opportunities with Public Works, each of these projects was listed on the County website for upcoming bids.

The State Labor Code requires contractors to pay prevailing wage rates to all persons employed on public works construction contracts. These rates are determined by the Department of Industrial Relations and include contributions for fringe benefits such as vacations, pension funds, training, and health plans for each employee.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the project specifications stating that the contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

The contracts will be in the form previously approved by County Counsel. We will also review and approve the faithful performance and payment bonds filed by the contractors.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

Each of these projects was found to be categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act at the time your Board called for bids. The specifics of these findings are included in the enclosure for each project.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

The contracts were solicited on an open competitive basis in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contract Code.

The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees.

Public Works has confirmed that all of the respective contractors are in compliance with the County's Child Support Compliance Program and the requirements of the Contractor Employee Jury Service Program. In addition, the contracts will include language requiring compliance with the Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law).

The project specifications also contain a provision that, should the contractor require additional or replacement personnel to fill employment openings, consideration shall be given to hiring qualified participants in the County's Greater Avenues for Independence or General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs.

To ensure that the contracts are awarded to responsible contractors with satisfactory performance histories, bidders are required to report violations of the False Claims Act, their civil litigation history, and information regarding prior criminal convictions. The information reported by all of the respective contractors was considered before making this recommendation to approve execution of the contracts.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
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**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

These construction contracts will result in improved public works infrastructure in the communities where the work is scheduled. Where appropriate, local residents and businesses will be informed that traffic and local access may be mildly disrupted during the construction. The proposed schedules for construction are included in the enclosure for each project.

**CONCLUSION**

Please return one approved copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES  
Director of Public Works

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Enc. 2

cc: Chief Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

AWARD OF CONTRACT  
November 25, 2003

PROJECT ID NO. RDC0014205, 50TH STREET WEST AT AVENUE L-14, ET AL.  
(in the vicinities of Quartz Hill, Palmdale, and Littlerock), Supervisorial District 5

TYPE OF WORK: Construction of a crosswalk warning system and flashers, modification of traffic signals, and widening of roadway pavement.

CALL FOR BIDS DATE: October 8, 2003 (Synopsis 36)

BID OPENING DATE: November 4, 2003

BID SUMMARY:

Low TDS Engineering, a corporation 2899 Agoura Road, Suite 171 West Lake Village, California 91361-3200 (805) 371-4639	\$188,296.00
2 *Steiny and Company, Inc.	\$195,836.71
3 Taft Electric Company	\$199,636.51

\*MWBE

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Amount of estimate	\$162,889.05
Amount of recommended contract	\$188,296.00
Amount of recommended contract above estimate	\$ 25,406.95

The amount of the recommended contract is 16 percent above the engineer's estimate, which was based on the bid price history of the various items. A review of the estimate indicates that the prices of several items were below current market prices. Since all three bids received were above the estimate and were very competitive, we do not believe that readvertising the project will result in lower bids. Therefore, we recommend award of the contract to the low bidder.

This project is included in the fiscal year 2003-04 Road Fund Budget.

MINORITY/WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE DATA:

TDS Engineering has no MWBE subcontractors/suppliers under this contract, which does not have a Federal- or State-mandated DBE goal.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

This project is categorically exempt pursuant to Class 1, Subsections (x)(4) and (x)(23), of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:

The contract specifications require the work to be completed in 45 working days. It is estimated that the work will start in January and be completed in March 2004.

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AWARD OF CONTRACT  
November 25, 2003

PROJECT ID NO. TSM0010010, HUNTINGTON DRIVE, ET AL. (in the vicinities of Rosemead, Arcadia, Monrovia, and San Gabriel), Supervisorial Districts 1 and 5

TYPE OF WORK: Modification and synchronization of traffic signals.

CALL FOR BIDS DATE: September 30, 2003 (Synopsis 58)

BID OPENING DATE: October 28, 2003

BID SUMMARY:

Low	*C. T. & F., Inc., a corporation 7228 Scout Avenue Bell Gardens, California 90201-4998 (562) 927-2339	\$1,364,107.91
2	Dynalectric	\$1,666,561.60

\*MWBE

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Amount of estimate	\$1,173,702.50
Amount of recommended contract	\$1,364,107.91
Amount of recommended contract above estimate	\$ 190,405.41

The amount of the recommended contract is 16 percent above the engineer's estimate. A review of the estimate and bidders' pricing indicates that estimates for some items were below current market prices. Based on the bids received, we do not believe that readvertising this project will result in lower bids. Therefore, we recommend that the contract be awarded to the low bidder.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority has approved a grant for Proposition C Discretionary Funds to finance the majority of the project cost; therefore, the project will be constructed at no cost to the cities involved. This project is included in the 2003-04 Proposition C Local Return Fund Budget.



MINORITY/WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE DATA:

C. T. & F., Inc., has no MWBE subcontractors/suppliers under this contract. This contract does not have a Federal- or State-mandated DBE goal.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

This project is categorically exempt pursuant to Class (1), Subsection (4), of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:

The contract specifications require the work to be completed in 100 working days. It is estimated that the work will start in March and be completed in August 2004.

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